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**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

PHILIP L. BROWNING
Interim Director

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLINA
First District

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Third District

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Fifth District

September 20, 2011

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: Philip L. Browning, Interim Director

Donald Blevins, Chief Probation Officer

**RESPONSE TO THE AUGUST 30, 2011 MOTION REGARDING SEX OFFENDER
REGISTRATION WHERE CHILDREN RESIDE**

On August 30, 2011, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, you directed the Departments of Children and Family Services, Probation and Internal Services, in consultation with the Sheriff's Department, to report back in 21 days on the development of protocols for:

- (1) The Probation Department to cross-reference and cross-report the addresses of registered sex offenders who reside with children, in violation of their probationary terms and conditions, and/or who register a residential address known or later discovered to house children;
- (2) The Departments of Children and Family Services, Internal Services and the Sheriff's to cross-reference, on a monthly basis, current placement and home residences of families served by DCFS with available databases of registered sex offenders in order to identify and cross-report those homes for investigation; and
- (3) The Department of Children and Family Services to issue monthly written reminders to KinGAP legal guardians requesting verification, from the Megan's Law website, that:
 - (a) any person(s) who have moved into the residence or property are not registered sex offenders, and
 - (b) any registered sex offender has not listed their home address as a residence of record.

The Probation Department and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) will work together to cross-reference and cross-report known locations where children and registered sex offenders, in violation of their probationary terms and conditions, reside. The Probation Department will share the addresses of the 290 PC (Penal Code) registered sex offenders' addresses identified by the Probation's Adult Probation System (APS). In preliminary discussions on possible protocols for the process, the Probation Department indicated it can provide the information to DCFS in an encrypted format, wherein only the addresses, without the name and other identifying information of the offender, would be furnished. DCFS would then run the information against its database. If a match occurs, Probation would review the probationer's history to determine if a violation of probation has occurred and the necessary actions to deal with the probationer while DCFS works to ensure child safety.

The Sheriff's Department, Internal Services Department (ISD), and DCFS have discussed the feasibility of utilizing ISD's newest matching technology to cross-reference the available databases for registered sex offenders who may be utilizing addresses where DCFS supervised children live. Discussions remain ongoing. The Sheriff's Department is authorized by the California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) to download the California Sex and Arson Registry (CSAR) for law enforcement use only. As such, the Sheriff's Department needs to obtain CA DOJ's approval to provide the CSAR database to a non-law enforcement government agency. The Sheriff's Department has contacted the CA DOJ whose staff is obtaining counsel input on the matter. Based on the CA DOJ's response to the Sheriff's Department, the three departments will create protocols for the cross-matching. The Departments will ensure that County Counsel reviews the protocols prior to implementation.

The Department of Children and Family Services has also explored possible ways to issue monthly written reminders to KinGAP legal guardians requesting verification that they ensure that any persons who have moved into the residence or property are not registered sex offenders and that a registered sex offender has not listed their home address as a residence of record. The Department's Kinship Support Division has provided a cost estimate for sending monthly reminders to approximately 4500 KinGAP homes. The cost for postage alone is estimated at nearly \$2000 per month (utilizing the postal rate of \$0.44 cent stamps for each reminder), with an annual projected cost of \$23,760. The Department is also exploring alternative means for sending reminders through existing processes. One possibility is to determine if the reminders can be provided via the monthly vouchers that are generated through the Auditor Controller's Office. The Department's Bureau of Information Services will work with ISD to determine the feasibility of printing the reminders on the monthly vouchers.

We will provide the Board with an update in 60 days as to the status of the cross-matching and the monthly reminders for KinGAP providers. If you have any questions, please call us or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Manager, DCFS Board Relations Section, at (213) 351-5530.

PB:AG:DM:ag

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Internal Services Department
Sheriff's Department



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES


425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

PHILIP L. BROWNING
Interim Director

November 18, 2011

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

From: Philip L. Browning, Interim Director

Cal Remington, Acting Chief Probation Officer

**UPDATE TO THE RESPONSE TO THE AUGUST 30, 2011 MOTION REGARDING SEX
OFFENDER REGISTRATION WHERE CHILDREN RESIDE**

On September 20, 2011, we provided an initial response to the August 30, 2011 motion of Supervisor Antonovich. This memo provides an update to the September 20, 2011 response.

In the motion, you directed the Departments of Children and Family Services, Probation and Internal Services, in consultation with the Sheriff's Department, to report back on the development of protocols for:

- (1) The Probation Department to cross-reference and cross-report the addresses of registered sex offenders who reside with children, in violation of their probationary terms and conditions, and/or who register a residential address known or later discovered to house children;
- (2) The Departments of Children and Family Services, Internal Services and the Sheriff's to cross-reference, on a monthly basis, current placement and home residences of families served by DCFS with available databases of registered sex offenders in order to identify and cross-report those homes for investigation; and
- (3) The Department of Children and Family Services to issue monthly written reminders to KinGAP legal guardians requesting verification, from the Megan's Law website, that:
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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

The Probation Department and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) have met in order to work on a process to cross-reference and cross-report known locations where children and registered sex offenders, in violation of their probationary terms and conditions, reside. The Probation Department will provide addresses of the 290 PC registered sex offenders to DCFS. Probation estimates about 1200 addresses from their Adult Probation System (APS) would be provided, with December as the target date for the information sharing since Probation is impacted by its AB109 workload. Once DCFS receives the information, DCFS will cross-match against the addresses of children in placement. The Departments agreed to conduct the cross-match monthly, since DCFS places children in out-of-home care on a continuous basis.

In our initial response, we informed your Board that the Sheriff's Department is authorized by the California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) to download the California Sex and Arson Registry (CSAR) for law enforcement use only. As such, the Sheriff's Department needed to obtain CA DOJ's approval to provide the CSAR database to a non-law enforcement government agency. The Sheriff's Department contacted the CA DOJ, and California Deputy Attorney General Janet Neeley notified them that only law enforcement officers can access the secure Megan's Law (CSAR) database. Therefore, the Sheriff's is unable to provide a download of the database to DCFS. DCFS continues to work with the Sheriff's Department and Internal Services Department (ISD) to determine if any workable solutions may meet this goal.

The Department of Children and Family Services has received the go-ahead from ISD to provide reminders to KinGAP legal guardians with their monthly vouchers. The Department expects to have the first such reminders go out with the December vouchers.

If you have any questions, please call us or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Manager, DCFS Board Relations Section, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:CR:AG:ag

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Internal Services Department
Sheriff's Department